

All advertisements, unless the time for which they are to be inserted is specified, will be continued until paid for, and so charged.

Book and Job Printing of every description neatly executed. Terms, cash on delivery of the work.

It is not when the steed is stolen that the door should be closed. The policy of the laggard will not serve to advance the interests of this colony. It does not answer in other countries, and it is not likely we are an exception to the general rule. When a defect exists, it should be immediately remedied. If there is any portion of our Government machinery wanting, it should be filled up without delay. That there is an absence of a proper department for advancing the settlement of the country, is evident enough. The Government are aware of it. The vote of supplies for immigration purposes asked for and granted in the House of Assembly, is one step towards making provision for remedying this state of things. But that is not enough. We want action. We would have some tangible results. Judging, however, from the past, it is hard to say how long we shall have to wait for them. In the meantime, the best part of the season will be lost. Our spring immigration will set in almost immediately. The tide of population will roll this year into the colony in a stream little inferior to that of the last twelve months. The real value of the country is becoming better known. The immense richness of our gold fields, difficult of access though they have been, is now sufficiently evident to the world to attract hither large numbers of hardy miners. But it is not with this class of population that an Immigration Department is chiefly required to deal. They will be able pretty well to look after their own interests. It is with those who desire to make this country the home of themselves and their families, that such an institution would need to come in contact. It is for the purpose of affording every necessary information to such intending settlers that we want a department of the kind just alluded to. Without systematic action we can do nothing. If we wish to make sure of our new-comers we must make it our business to look after them and afford them every reasonable accommodation in disposing of themselves in this new country. Our Immigration Department will need to be in connection with that of the public lands, in order to have every information at hand as to the tracts of land open for settlement, not only in this colony but in British Columbia.

If this portion of the business were properly attended to, a wonderful change would soon be apparent on the face of the country. Where now the prairie fern and the pine forest flourish in their pristine luxuriance, we would soon behold the settler's cottage with his cultivated plot of ground, every day growing larger, as the woods receded before his axe. Various branches of manufacturing industry would then spring up, and the great mineral resources of the country stand a better chance of development.

Of course all this would naturally come to pass some day or other. Our position is such that nothing could prevent it. But there is no reason why we should not accelerate the movement by systematic action. In this we must take pattern from other new countries. They all, in common with us, bid for population. In doing so, they do not remain inactive and wait till the tide of immigration shall of itself turn towards them. They anticipate its action, by directing the same.

Our gold mines will do much towards producing the same effect for us. They must continue to attract a number of people to this part of the world, who will be incited by other motives than a desire of mining. Such of course must not be suffered to leave this country for the adjacent territories and States through the lack of such information as to our resources, as might be afforded by an Immigration Officer. We have not alluded to the desirability also of having some one whose duty it would be to point out to newcomers the sources from which employment could be had for those needing it. That service could, no doubt, be effectually rendered by an Immigration Department. But we need not dwell upon the subject. Its advantages and its necessity are obvious to all. The duty of the Government is too clear to admit of discussion, and the public call for immediate action before the flood tide of immigration shall have arrived.

Mail Communication with Nanaimo and Comox.

The necessity of proper mail communication with Nanaimo, Comox, and the various settlements along the east coast of the Island has long been apparent. The condition of things in this respect has up to the present been a disgrace to any Government pretending to civilization. Last fall the agent of the Government in the House of Assembly represented that the matter would be remedied. In the beginning of this year the money to allow of its being done was voted by the Assembly. After having had all the winter to deliberate upon the Subsidy Act, one would expect something satisfactory would be done in the way of providing the public with an extension of our postal communication. However, although we are to have some change upon what has previously existed, it does not go as far as the want of the country call for. The Government advertise for tenders for conveying mails between Comox, Nanaimo, and the adjacent districts, once a fortnight by steamer. Now it must be evident upon the slightest consideration that this is not often enough. The idea of giving a place like Nanaimo anything less than a weekly mail, is absurd. It is more; it is unjust towards those who are opening up the country in that direction. After having held out to them the hope of having some means made for the long neglect under which they have suffered, they are now likely to be as badly off as they were before. When they, as at present, depend only upon sailing vessels for their letters and papers, they stand a pretty good chance of receiving their letters at least three times a month. It is not strange, then, that they should be content with nothing less than a weekly service from the Government. Nothing less will give any public satisfaction.

Wesleyan Methodist Missions.

PUBLIC MISSIONARY MEETING will be held in the Wesleyan Church on Pandoo street, on Monday the 16th instant, at 7 P.M., under the direction of THE CHIEF JUSTICE CAMERON, in the Chair.

Several addresses will be delivered, and interesting information concerning the Society's operations will be communicated.

PREPARATORY SERMONS will be preached on Sabbath evenings, at 7 P.M., in the New, or White, of New Westminster, at 6:30 P.M., in the Chapel of the Royal Hospital.

A collection in aid of the Mission Fund will be held at each service.

Friday Morning, March 13, 1863.

AUCTION SALES TO-DAY.

J. A. MCNEA will sell, at 11 o'clock, A. M., at saleroom, the Read's Block, Wharf Street, Flour, Bacon, Hams, Syrup, and other Groceries and Provisions; also, Wrapping Paper, Matches, Soap, etc.

THE DISASTER TO THE EXPLORER.—Mr. Benjamin Spain, one of the sailors belonging to the Explorer, has had the boldness to rush into print to give a denial to the statements which lately appeared in our columns, in reference to the conduct of the crew subsequent to the disaster which happened to this vessel. The gentleman from whom we obtained the particulars of the narrative which we published, was one of the passengers on board the Explorer, and is well known as a person of the greatest respectability and above stating anything but the truth. In addition to his testimony we can produce a letter from Mr. Adam Ross, whose cases were tapped, which will corroborate one of the informants statement, that Mr. Spain and the crew did not the guilty party, not discovered.¹ In presence of Mr. Walker, passenger, Mr. Ross accused Spain *himself* of being the guilty party, and he dared not deny the accusation. Another of Mr. Spain's assertions, that the liquor must have been sold to Indians on the coast.¹ If this be true that Mr. Spain must have known better than Moses Phillips, the Captain, for he stated, in presence of Messrs. Ross and Walker, that it was for that very purpose and no other.

FURIOUS RIDING.—M. R. Smith, of Esquimalt, appeared on a summons before Mr. Pemberton yesterday morning, to answer a charge of riding in a manner dangerous to the public safety, preferred by Mr. Lowenberg. The complainant stated that as he was walking along the Esquimalt road last Sunday afternoon in company with another gentleman and a lady, the defendant, with several companions, overtook them on horseback, galloping at full speed. The pedestrians, in order to escape from being run over, were compelled to turn hastily into the mud. The defendant and his companions, who appeared much intoxicated, pulled up when they reached a house, and complained to the constable that they had been accosted by personal feelings, but that the habit of racing was such a constant practice, that, on public grounds, he felt bound to make the complaint. He alluded to the fact of several accidents having resulted from the culpable carelessness of such parties, by one of which a child had been severely injured, and no notice taken of the matter by the authorities. If the police were occasionally to look the matter, the practice might be easily put a stop to. The defendant admitted that his horse had started off so suddenly that he had been riding too fast, but stated that his horse had started off so suddenly from the bunch, he, however, admitted that these were his own companions. The magistrate thanked Mr. Lowenberg for bringing the case before his notice, for he considered he had discharged a duty owing to the public safety, and put a stop to. The defendant admitted that he had been riding to a higher court; but, as Mr. Lowenberg was willing to accept the apology tendered, he would dismiss the summons, the cost of the same to be defrayed by defendant.

THREATS.—George Collins, proprietor of the squaw dance house, appeared before the Poole's Magistrate yesterday, to answer a charge of using violent and threatening language against Victor M. Foucault, upon whose application a warrant had been issued. The complainant swore that during the last week in February, the defendant had threatened him, and since then on several occasions, his violent language had been repeated. He applied for the defendant to be bound over to keep the peace. The defendant admitted having called complainant a "leader," but stated that the words had been called out in a very general way. The cause of dispute between them was somewhat difficult about a "brothel-oman." The case was remanded for one day that witnesses on both sides might be called, the defendant being allowed his liberty upon furnishing his own recognisance for the sum of £20.

SELL OF REAL ESTATE.—At the auction sale of Messrs. Franklin yesterday, the following property was disposed of at the prices quoted:—Portion of lot 18 on Yates street corner of Douglas, 20 feet on Yates by 120 feet deep, together with house, sold for \$2,420; Lot adjoining, same size with house, bought \$1,800; Portion of Lot No. 3, on View street, 25 feet by 120, with residence, \$2,350; Lot No. 45, same size with residence, \$2,100; Lot No. 45, same size, 20 feet by 120 on Fisgard near Street, sold \$1,675; Lot corner Fisgard and Queen streets, 65 by 120 feet, with house \$350. The terms of sale were \$25 cash, \$20 in three months, and the balance at 6 months, bearing 12% per month interest.

FOR COMAX.—The schooner North Star sailed yesterday afternoon with nine passengers, eleven head of cattle, one horse, and a cargo of general provisions and farm implements for the new settlement. She also carried up Mr. Munro and six choppers engaged to work upon the bridges of the Nainaimo-Comox road; also, two horses belonging to the same party, that will be employed in hauling logs for their construction.

READING AT MOORE'S HALL.—Mrs. Ewing read Byron's fine poem, the "Corsair," last night at Moore's Hall to a very limited audience. From the lady's style of reading, we fancied it was first public attempt, and we can only hope it will be a successful one. We certainly do not think the merits of Miss. St. John's have fallen upon this instance.

FROM NANAIMO.—The schooner Caroleana, Jimmy Jones, master, arrived yesterday morning from Nanaimo with 31 tons of coal. No further news of the condition of the coal, nor had been received, up to the time of her departure.

THE OTTER.—This vessel is now ready to be launched from the ways at Laird's shipyard, and the operation is but postponed until the spring tides arrive next week. It will take about two weeks more to fit her new boilers, and get her ready for sea.

NEW WESTMINSTER.—Business about the wharves here is getting very brisk, the vast quantity of freight daily arriving, keeping every one actively employed. On Wednesday five steamers left to go up river, and all heavily loaded with goods.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.—The steamer Eliza Anderson arrived here yesterday morning from New Westminster. There were only about twelve passengers on board.

FOR FRASER RIVER.—The gunboat Forward sailed yesterday morning for New Westminster. She has gone up for the purpose of replacing the buoys at the mouth of the river, which have been deranged by the shifting of the sand banks.

FOR NEW WESTMINSTER.—The steamer Enterprise sailed on Wednesday night at twelve o'clock for New Westminster, carrying a large freight and several passengers.

FOR THE SOUND.—The steamer Eliza Anderson will sail for Olympia this morning at nine o'clock.

THE BUOY UPON BROTHIE'S LEDGE.—The buoy upon Brothie's Ledge has again been carried away.

Supreme Court of Civil Justice.

[Before Cameron, C. J., and a Special Jury.]

THURSDAY, March 12, 1863.

Mr. Henry McHugh vs. Mr. Joseph Homer Doane.—This was an action brought to recover the sum of \$200 for alleged misrepresentation and deficiency in the quantity of lamp oil, which he contracted to be delivered to him.

The Attorney General, instructed by Mr. Bishop, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Ring and Mr. McCraight, instructed by Mr. Drake, for defendant.

The trial commenced at 11 a. m., when the Attorney General stated on the part of the plaintiff, that the oil was not easily borne when men are not earning money.

The question of a Gold Escort had been talked over by the miners during the winter, and the project, if undertaken by the Government on a proper foundation, would be sure to meet with the heartiest support. The people wintering on Williams Creek were very sanguine about the yield of gold in the forthcoming season being greater than ever it had been before. There was a very large amount of gold ready for sending down when opportunity offered, and Mr. Spain, who had applied us with his information, which we published yesterday, is an old pioneer in this country, having come here in 1858, and remained ever since. He has been engaged mining all winter on Williams Creek, where he holds some claims which he looks forward to, as likely to do well. He intends returning to the upper country in the course of three or four weeks.

FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA.—The steamer Enterprise arrived last night at ten o'clock from New Westminster. There were only ten passengers on board. The opposition between the different lines has brought down the prices of passage from the Capital to the towns at the head of navigation. Passengers were being carried for \$2 to Douglas, and for \$5 to Yale by the last trip of the up-river steamers. Much freight could not be taken, owing to the low stage of the water just at present.**BOAT STEALING.**—The notorious Charles Brown was arrested yesterday on a warrant charging him with stealing a boat. The case will come to trial this morning.

Rowe is 1862.—Progress, in almost everything but the fine arts, appears to be made with indifference. All labor is still performed by the hand. The distaff continues in use, and it may be doubted if the people are yet acquainted with the spinning wheel. Clothmakers and dyers spread out their yarn on the streets in the homely fashion of two centuries ago in England. Weaving is executed on small wooden looms, some of which, I observed, had not got the length of the fly-shuttle. It is with such a rude apparatus that the pretty Roman sarcas are woven by girls in the shop where they are sold; one will be made to order within four and twenty hours. Pottery and glass, as far back and a number of other articles in the like manner, are made on a small scale in the living-room of the family. The baker's oven is behind his counter, as was the case in Pompeii two thousand years since. I had a fancy, to visit some of the printing offices, and found that there were only six hand presses, and the impressions slowly executed by these on coarse hand-made paper. In the office of the only newspaper printed in Rome, there was a large number of presses, including one of the cylinder kind, but all were driven by manual labor, which admitted to be insufficient, for the impressions of the newspaper were to be sold down above 800 copies. In the copy which fell into my hands there were only two or three pages of news, and the remainder of the paper was filled with advertisements of all kinds. The law stands as it did in Pompeii, and the law of the city, let the vendors here adopt this practice, which common honesty dictates, and many poor settlers will be saved from blighted hopes.

VICTORIA, March 9, 1863.

The Bench and the Bar.

Editor BRITISH COLONIST.—Sir: Your com-
munity, in his remarks under the head of
"Law and Order," following:"Those who have resorted to a contempt-
ible monopoly which now obtains here, in
order to *fix* *prices*, would very soon find
themselves at the bottom of the *water*."The editor of the *Proprietor* stated that he had
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FOR SALE-TO LET.

For Sale.

Lots 1712, 1713, 1750, 1751

FORMING AN ACRE OF LAND,

A. W. A. Young, Esq., at James Bay.

For particulars, apply to

JOHN J. COCHRANE,

Land Agent, Fort Street.

Furnished Apartments.

ONE OR TWO NICELY FURNISHED

APARTMENTS, may be obtained at

private house in Fort Street, one door above Douglass.

Terms moderate.

FOR SALE,

LOT NO. 11 SUBDIVISION OF SEC-

TION called Spring Ridge.

Apply to

A. F. MAIN,

Wharf street.

FOR SALE!

2 Brick Houses!

And Lots.

MR. COPLAND

HAS RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO

SELL for sale those superior two-story Brick

Residences on Fort street, with the Lots, facing on

the Church Reserve. The buildings are highly

finished, and in excellent condition.

From their healthy position, they offer great in-

ducements either as a speculation, or to partici-

pate in their private residence.

For further particulars apply to

MR. COPLAND,

Langley street.

Desirable Business Lots.

TO LEASE, IS ONE FLOOR ON GOVERNMENT

BETWEEN JOHNSON AND CORNELL Streets, well

located, and convenient for business.

Also, 129 feet on Cornhill, below Government

street.

J. DE COSMOS.

A. DE COSMOS.

TO Let,

2 Handsome Shops

IN THE COURSE OF ERECTION ON THE

corner of Government and Broughton streets

—ALSO—

TO LEASE, AT a very low rental, 500 Acres of Vie-

Land, at South Saanich, about 12 miles from Vic-

toria.

ALSO, TO BE LEASED,

Some superb Land, with a residence thereon,

within two miles from the city, well adapted for

market gardens, &c.

ALSO, TO BE LEASED,

Lots on North Park street, 50 by 100 feet, at \$5 per

month each.

Apply to SELIM FRANKLIN & CO.,

Government street,

HENRY COOPER,

Wharf street.

FOR SALE,

A SALOON, WITH ROOMS ATTACHED,

AND the good will, Stock, Furniture, and Fix-

tures complete. Situate in the best part of the city, and the largest profitable business.

For further particulars apply to

JOHN S. BISHOP,

General Agent,

Government street.

FOR SALE!

A HOUSE AND GROUND LEASE, FOUR

years to run, on Yates street, between Fort and

Broughton streets.

It is a good stand for business. Satisfactory

reasons given for selling. Inquire on the premises.

A. NOLTEMEIER.

PIONEER HAT MANUFACTORY.

ADAMS & CO.,

WILL ON OR ABOUT the 15th MARCH

OPEN THE PIONEER HAT STORE OF

Victoria, V. I. and British Columbia.

A. & CO. BEING PRACTICAL HAT

Hatters will manufacture, repair, and

alter Hats, Caps, Ladies' Hatin

Boys, and Children's Hats and Caps in all their

varieties.

Our business with London, Paris, New York and

San Francisco are such that we will be able at

all times to have a supply of English, French and Ameri-

can Hats and Caps, which we will

SELL RETAIL OR TO THE TRADE

At prices lower than they can be purchased in San

Francisco. Every description of Hats and Caps

made to order.

A good store wanted.

C. J. Adams, R. H. Adams at this office.

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A. NOLTEMEIER,

Boot and Shoe Maker

WADDINGTON ALLEY,

REPECTFULLY INFORMS HIS

Customers and the public in general, that he

has a well and varied Stock of

Boots, Shoes and Gaiters,

Which he will sell for the lowest Cash Price.

His Customers may depend on getting well fitting

Boots, Shoes, and manufactured from the very

best material.

REPAIRING

Neatly done at the shortest notice.

A. NOLTEMEIER

Has Secured the Best Workmen that

can be obtained on the Pacific Coast

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ROYAL MAIL

Steam Packet

Company's Agency,

For British Columbia & Van-

couver Island.

OFFICE, MACDONALD & CO., BANKERS,

Yates street.

THE ATTENTION OF SHIPPERS

is directed to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Com-

pany's Line, for the speedy conveyance of

Treasure, Goods and Passengers, from Fort

Street, and the Pacific Coast, in con-

nection with the Pacific Mail Steamship Com-